THE
Bloody Murtherers EXECUTED;

OR,

News from Fleet-Street.

Being the Laſt *S*peech and Confeſsions

OF

The Two Perſons Executed there

On *Friday* the 22 of *October*, 1675.

With an exact Account of all the Circumſtances of their Murthering the Knight, Sir *R. S.* in *White-Fryers*. The Manner of their being Apprehended, and their Deportment in *Newgate*, from the time of their Condemnation, to their Execution.

They were Removed to Hang in Irons, one on *Finchly-Common*, and the other on *Sanford Hills*, on Saturday the 23d. of *Octob.* 1675.

With Allowance.

Printed for *William Powel*. 1675.

An account of the crime and confeſsion of the two Perſons hanged in *Fleet-Street.*

THere is nothing more falſe or extravagant than common fame ; and therefore to prevent the further ſpreading of untrue Reports concerning this unhappy accident, it is now thought fit to make publique a more Impartial and perfect account thereof then has yet been expoſed to general view.

The fact it ſelf was of that Nature as ſcarce admits of any Extenuation, much leſs Apology, Murther being a Crime moſt heinons and abominable, not to be expiated, where wilfully Committed by any thing but the life of the offender: All Laws both Divine and humane centring in this moſt Juſt reſult, *That he that ſheds mans blood, by man ſhall his blood be ſhed.*

The Gentleman upon whom this aſſaſſination was committed was a perſon of good worth, a handſome noble Eſtate, young in years, and likely to have proved very uſeful and ſerviceable to his Countrey and Generation, his Family being ſo well known that I do not think it fit to ſtain his name by inſerting it in a pamphlet; Let it ſuffice to ſay; That as he was a Knight by Title and quality ſo he was of that clear courage and generoſity, that he deſerved a braver fate than to be thus clean deſtinely kill'd by ſurprize; The occaſion of which was thus.

This Knight and a friend of his being accidentally in company at a Tavern in Fleet-ſtreet, theſe two perſons whoſe lives have now paid for their inſolency, intruded into their room, and one of them creates a quarrel with the Knights Friend, pretending forty ſhillings due to him from his Brother as won of him at play, which he very rudely demanded of this ſtranger, who refuſing to gratifie ſo unreaſonable a requeſt, high and very rough words aroſe from the over-ſwelling of their mutual paſſions, from Words, as too often is uſual in ſuch caſes, the heat of their Spirit brought them to blows, wherein yet little harm was done on either ſide; they being quickly parted in the fray by the people of the houſe and others that there interpoſed.

Hereupon theſe two perſons now to ſuffer went way, but as it ſadly appears, not being ſatisfied

reſolved

reſolved to way-lay them, more particularly to be revenged on this Knight, whoſe appearing reſolutely in his friends behalf had defeated them of their expectations; and accordingly waited in the ſtreet till the others came forth, they followed them towards the back Gate of the Temple in *White-Fryars*, and then both of them with as little generoſity, as piety or regard to the Laws of God or Man, fell on the Knight on a ſuddain ſheathing both their Swords in his body, and purſuing their thruſts even after he was down: he not having opportunity by reaſon of the unexpected ſurprize ſo much as to draw his ſword.

Leaving him dead there upon the place, the two Criminals conſidering what they had done, betook themſelves to flight, and as is ſaid immediately croſs'd over the Water, but thinking themſelves not ſecure about *London*, concluded to take their Iourney for refuge, yet wanting Horſes and other conveniences for that purpoſe, and not daring to be ſeen abroad to provide any they were forced to make uſe of a friend, who 'tis probable knew nothing of the particulars of their danger to get ſuch neceſſaries for them; It happened that Gentleman that very day had a Tryal to be in *Guild-Hall*, and being plaintiff came in the morning to his Attorney, deſiring of him to put off the Tryal, becauſe he had two friends in a little danger that he muſt that day help to get out of the Town; The honeſt Attorney being called upon by the other ſide to preceed to Tryal; acquainted them with what his Clyent ſaid, and the particular occaſion which kept him abſent, not imagining it to be any matter of ſecrecy. But by chance ſhall I ſay or rather providence, one that ſtood by and had been well acquainted with the murthered Gentleman overhearing him, inquired who his Clyent was, ſuſpecting theſe two perſons to be the ſame they afterwards proved; and it appearing ſo upon the examination of the Clyent, and that they were gone towards *Barnet*, purſuit was made after them, who croſſed the Countrey, and Rid by-roads, but yet not ſo ſecretly but ſtill the hue and cry had notice of their motion, till at laſt they lodged them in a village, where getting of a Conſtable and comming with ſtore of company to apprehend them, theſe ſeemingly unconcerned Gentlemen themſelves look'd out at a Window, and ask'd the people *what the matter was*; and being told it was to apprehend perſons ſuſpected for the murther of a Knight at *London* they ſtood upon their guard, but being apprehended, and committed, and thence by due proceſs of Law brought to *London*, and arraigned at the *Old Bayly*, at the Seſsions, the 13 of *October* 1675, where they inſiſted that the Fact was done *se defendendo*, and afterwards that it was onely Chance medley, or Manſlaughter, being acted in heat of Blood upon a ſudden fray or Rancounter; but the ſeveral circumſtances before mentioned being diſtinctly ly and fully proved againſt them, and that they made the ſecond aſſault a good conſiderable time after the firſt quarrel, the Iury brought them in guilty of murther, and accordingly they received Sentence of death, as in ſuch caſes is uſual, onely becauſe it might be a more a Warning, and make the greater impreſsions on the ſpirits of the wild Hectorian Gentlemen, wherewith this age and City too much abounds; it was thought fit by authority, that they ſhould be hanged in *Fleet-ſtreet* as near as conveniently might be to the place where they did the fact.

There were ſeveral addreſſes (as 'tis ſaid) made for obtaining a pardon or reprieve for them, but the heinouſneſs of the crime, the quality of the perſon kill'd, and many other circumſtances prevented that indulgence.

After Sentence they behaved themſelves in *Newgate* with much moderation and ſeeming (I hope hearty and ſincere] repentance; The Ordinary and other godly Miniſters often attending them with Chriſtian admonitions and exhortations for the eternal good of their ſouls.

The Day of Execution for the common priſoners was on *Wedneſday* the 20th of *October*, at which time five condemned laſt Seſsions for Houſebreaking Robbery and the like crimes ſuffered death at Tyburn; but theſe two perſons had the date of their lives extended until Friday the 22 of this inſtant *October*, and then ſuffered in *Fleet-Street*; where

where vaſt multitudes of people were aſſembled to be ſpectators of the diſmal ſpectacle.

Some time before their death in priſon they acknowledged great ſorrow for their ill ſpent lives, and particularly for the crime for which they were to dye; they confeſt from the time of the fray at the Tavern they had a murtherous intention againſt the *Knight*, but proteſted they had no malice againſt him before.

At the place of Execution they Deſired very paſſionately all young Gentlemen to take Warning by their unhappy end of ſuch raſh actions, and in particular reckon'd up neglect of the Sabbath and Gameing as the main Original *Sins* that brought them to this ruine.

Particularly Mr. *S.* was Noted to be very Penitent, often Admoniſhing Young Men to beware of a Debaucht and Deſalute way of Living, too much addicted to by the youth of this Town: He ſaid he was never in his Life before concerned either as Acceſſary or Principal in any ſuch Fact, though he had been in many Broyls, and Quarrels, yet thanked God that he alwayys Eſcaped without Blood-ſhed until this unhappy buſineſs: He was very earneſt in Prayer, and with Three Miniſters, Mr. *F.* Mr. *P.* and Mr.--- ——— And alſo prayed heartily by himſelf.

Mr. *J.* was a Perſon which ſeemed more Cheerful and undaunted in his condition, though it is ſaid he hath behaved himſelf very Chriſtian-like ſince his Condemnation, until his Execution, before which he ſaid little or nothing to the People.

And ſo after certain Prayers and private diſcourſe with ſome friends, they were executed according to Law. Mr. *S.* firſt, and Mr. *J.* about half an hour after.

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